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CITY OF  
*Crystal Lake*  
ILLINOIS

December 29, 2011

Ms. Cynthia Brown  
Chief, Section of Administration  
Office of Proceedings  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

JAN 17 2012

Part of  
Public Record

**RE: Docket No. FD35087 (Sub-No. 8)**

Dear Ms. Brown:

As Mayor of the City of Crystal Lake, Illinois, a community of approximately 41,000 residents located 12 miles northwest of Barrington, IL, I am writing in support of the recent Village of Barrington petition seeking a railroad-paid grade separation between U.S. Highway 14 and the EJ&E rail line with which it intersects.

U.S. Highway 14 is a major thoroughfare in the City of Crystal Lake and the means by which many of our residents commute to workplaces located to the southeast of our City. As a four-lane regional arterial for the City of Crystal Lake and many of the surrounding communities, it is vital that traffic flow on U.S. Highway 14 not devolve into a constant state of vehicular gridlock due to the increase in freight traffic that will be operating on the rail line as a result of the Surface Transportation Board's approval of Canadian National Railway's purchase of the EJ&E in 2008.

In addition to the new and compelling evidence of traffic impacts raised in Barrington's petition, it is important for the Board to consider that planned January 2012 increases in rates for the tollway that runs parallel to U.S. Highway 14 through the region are likely to drive additional traffic onto U.S. Highway 14. Absent a grade separation project at a railroad juncture that will prove to be a significant bottleneck, the region's vitality and livability will be irrevocably harmed. I respectfully request that the Board use its oversight authority to hold Canadian National responsible for alleviating a portion of the harms its operations are creating in the area by requiring it to underwrite a grade separation in Barrington, just as the Board did in Lynwood, IL and Aurora, IL.

Sincerely,

Aaron T. Shepley, Mayor

cc: Karen Darch, Village of Barrington President

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012, caused a true copy of a letter from Crystal Lake, Illinois in support of Barrington's October 14, 2011 petition (STB Docket FD35087 - Sub-No 8) to be served by e-mail upon:

Cunningham, Paul A.  
Harkins Cunningham LLP  
1700 K Street, N.W., Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3817

Dold, Honorable Robert  
United States House Of Representatives  
227 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Durbin, Honorable Richard J  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-1304

Hirsh, David A  
Harkins Cunningham  
1700 K Street, Nw, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3817

Kirk, Honorable Mark  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Manzullo, Honorable Donald  
U.S. House Of Representatives  
2228 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Roskam, Honorable Peter J.  
Congress Of The United States  
318 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1308

Streeter, Richard H.  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20016

Walsh, Honorable Joe  
United States House Of Representatives  
432 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Weisner, Thomas J.  
City Of Aurora  
Mayors Office 44 E. Downer Place  
Aurora, IL 60507

Richardson, Kevin C.  
Village Of Lake Barrington  
23860 Old Barrington Road  
Lake Barrington, IL 60010

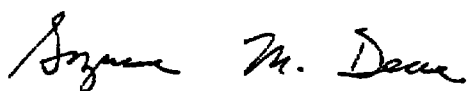
Dawson, Eugene R.  
Barrington Township  
602 South Hough Street  
Barrington, IL 60010

Leitner, Kathleen O.  
Village Of Tower Lakes  
400 N. Route 59  
Tower Lakes, IL 60010

Schwartz, Mayor Jim  
Village Of Palatine  
200 E. Wood Street  
Palatine, IL 60067

Munao, Frank J.  
Village Of South Barrington  
30 South Barrington Road  
South Barrington, IL 60010

Blankenhorn, Randall S.  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency For Planning  
233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Sears Tower  
Chicago, IL 60606

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne M. Devane".

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Suzanne M. Devane